



SCHOOL OF MUSIC

Presents

Karson Beer, Trumpet
Syuzanna Kaszo, Piano
Assisted by Jason Viola, Trumpet

November 11th, 2022

7:00 pm

PepsiCo Recital Hall

Program

Oh! Had I Jubal's Lyre

G.F. Handel (1685-1759)

Rhapsody in Blue

George Gershwin (1898-1937)
Arr. Rich and Branden Ridenour

Intermission

Lacrimosa

Luis C. Engelke (1969-Present)

Flower Duet

Leo Delibes (1863-1891)
Arr. Drew R. Fennell

Eiffel Tower Polka

Francis Poulenc (1899-1963)

This recital is given in partial fulfillment of the requirements for a Bachelors in Music Education. Karson Beer is a student of Dr. Jon Burgess.
The use of recording equipment or taking photographs is prohibited. Please silence all electronic devices including watches, pagers, and phones.

Recital Program Notes

Oh! Had I Jubal's Lyre

G.F. Handel

G.F. Handel was born in 1685 in Halle, Germany. A well-known Baroque composer, Handel was noted particularly for his operas, oratorios, and instrumental compositions. Handel wrote the most famous of all oratorios, *Messiah*, in 1741. *Oh! Had I Jubal's Lyre* is from Handel's oratorio, *Joshua* (1747), based on the biblical story.

Oh! Had I Jubal's Lyre is a short piece, but its lively melodies and moving lines make for a great trumpet arrangement. This adaptation was written for C trumpet, a sweeter, smaller version of the modern standard Bflat trumpet.

Rhapsody in Blue

George Gershwin

Arr. Rich and Brandon Ridenour

George Gershwin (1898 – 1937) was born in Brooklyn, New York. In 1908, Gershwin began piano lessons. At age fifteen, he began working in Tin Pan Alley, where he wrote, arranged, and recorded music. Known for its revolutionary integration of jazz rhythms and style with classical forms and instrumentation, *Rhapsody in Blue* was Gershwin's first classical work. *Rhapsody in Blue* was premiered in 1924 in Paul Whiteman's "An Experiment in Modern Music" concert and is now one of the most popular of all concert pieces. There have been many adaptations and arrangements of *Rhapsody in Blue*, one of which was arranged for trumpet and piano by Rich and Brandon Ridenour.

Rich and Brandon Ridenour are a father and son duo from Grand Rapids, Michigan, with Rich on the piano and Brandon on the trumpet. Rich is a successful pianist known for his versatility and musical mastery, as well as his humor! He established himself as a pianist by performing his own arrangements of classical pieces and today's piano favorites. He has played with many orchestras worldwide and serves as the pops director for the Dearborn Symphony Orchestra. His son Brandon Ridenour is a trumpeter, composer, and arranger. Brandon is an alumnus of The Juilliard School and played with the prestigious Canadian Brass for eight years. Ridenour did a lot in the years following his graduation, writing music, winning competitions, even rejoining the Canadian Brass. However, he felt the need to do something impactful and meaningful beyond music. Brandon has since developed a collaborative album titled "Come Together", an album of reimagined Beatles music, into a larger social impact and environmentalism project.

Rhapsody in Blue features solos and melodies from the original work, written for piccolo trumpet and Bflat trumpet. This arrangement includes Gershwin's revolutionary integration of jazz rhythms and style with classical styles, in the form of a trumpet concerto.

Lacrimosa

Luis C. Engelke

Luis Engelke is the Professor of Trumpet at Towson University, as well as the Principal Trumpet of the Lancaster, Kennett, and Mid Atlantic Symphony Orchestras, as well as other ensembles. Engelke performs well over one hundred times in a given year as a soloist or in a chamber group. Engelke has performed with more than fifty professional orchestras internationally, as well as a soloist in North America, South America, Asia, Europe, and Australia.

Lacrimosa was written as part of a collection of ten compositions for trumpet and fixed media during a sabbatical granted by Towson University. During this time, the Covid-19 pandemic and lockdown occurred, undoubtedly influencing much of the writing. While the accompanying audio is fixed, trumpet soloists are encouraged to embellish the solo part as preferred, making each performance their own.

Lacrimosa conveys the feelings drawn from the many losses and changes during the pandemic. This work may be performed with the soloist and audio alone, or with a video paired with the audio.

Flower Duet

Leo Delibes

Arr. Drew R. Fennell

The famous *Flower Duet* is from Leo Delibes' opera, *Lakmé* (1883). The *Flower Duet* is performed in Act 1 by Lakmé, the daughter of a Brahmin priest, and her servant Mallika as they begin their morning tasks. The scene is set in a thick bamboo forest surrounding a garden near the temple. The *Flower Duet* in its original form is for two sopranos.

Since its premier, there have been many arrangements and adaptations of the *Flower Duet*, from other vocal arrangements to instrumental arrangements, even a drum corps arrangement. This particular arrangement for two trumpets and piano is by Drew R. Fennell. Its beautiful flowing melodies reside in the trumpet parts accompanied by broken chords in the piano.

Eiffel Tower Polka

Francis Poulenc

Francis Jean Marcel Poulenc (1899 - 1963) was a French composer and pianist. His compositions included solo piano works, ballets, chamber music, songs, choral pieces, operas, and orchestral music. In addition to his work as a composer, Poulenc was an accomplished pianist. He was widely known for his performing partnerships with Pierre Bernac (baritone) and Denise Duval (soprano). He toured in Europe and America with both of them and made many recordings as a pianist. In his later years, and for decades after his death, Poulenc had a reputation as a humorous, lightweight composer.

Eiffel Tower Polka is a great example of one of Poulenc's more humorous compositions. Its fun melodies bounce between parts and the piano accompaniment binds the two together.